

**Attorney Docket No. HPC-001/CONT  
PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: ) Group Art Unit: Unknown  
WOO )  
Serial No. Continuation of )  
parent appln. S.N. 09/357,570 )  
Filed: Concurrently herewith )  
  
For: **ENTERIC COATED FORMULATION OF A BENZIMIDAZOLE  
DERIVATIVE AND METHOD FOR PREPARATION THEREOF**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a Rule 53(b) continuation application which claims priority from copending application Serial No. 09/357,570, wherein the Issue Fee is due January 28, 2004. Accordingly, this new Rule 53(b) continuation application is timely filed before payment of the Issue Fee in the parent application.

Preliminary to examination, please enter the following claims as indicated below. Subsequent to the amendment, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and request allowance of the captioned application.